



**OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
STATEWIDE TRAINING AND EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION**

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Date: January 16, 2015

Attachment 3

To: Ronny J. Coleman, Chairman
Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee
c/o State Fire Training

From: Rodney Slaughter, Deputy State Fire Marshal III

Subject/Agenda Action Item: Santa Rosa Junior College Reaccreditation

Recommended Actions: The accreditation site team recommends that Santa Rosa Junior College becomes reaccredited as an Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) in the State Fire Training (SFT) System.

Background Information:

An accreditation site visit was conducted on November 12, 2014 at the Santa Rosa Junior College Fire Training Center in Windsor California. The site team consisted of Robert Briare, STEAC representative, Jim Connors, CFTDA, Wellington Jackson of Merritt College and Rodney Slaughter from State Fire Training. A tour was conducted at both the main college campus and the Public Safety Training Center I Windsor.

Santa Rosa Junior College became one of the first accredited academies in the SFT system in August 1995. The college was re-accredited in November 2004 and continues to provide a fire academy as well as State Fire Training classes in the Greater Sonoma County area. The college offers a two-year degree in Fire Science, a pre-employment fire academy, as well as a variety of State Fire Training classes. Santa Rosa Junior College does not compete with other accredited academies; in that there are no other Accredited Regional Training Programs (ARTP's) serving this specific area.

The site team was given the opportunity to meet with Dr. Frank Chong, President and April Chapman, Dean of Public Safety. The President and Dean are both very supportive of the Fire Technology Program. The site team was also given an opportunity to meet with members of the College's Fire Advisory Committee along with current and former fire academy students. The college maintains contact with 56 fire agencies in their sphere of influence which is unprecedented for many other campuses. Strong support and guidance is offered to the college by the fire service partners in the area.

Santa Rosa Junior College has an unprecedented 20% female instructor population which has been beneficial in attracting more females to the program (10% females enrolled in the Fire Technology Program). Fire academy students commented on the diversity of faculty, their experience, knowledge and skills. Class leaders and Squad Leaders attend regular meetings with Fire Academy Coordinator.

The site team was given a tour of the classrooms and training facilities along with an opportunity to review the course records. The college staff is very familiar with SFT business processes and procedures and they are very mindful of the changes occurring in the system.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:

A tour of the training facilities revealed several dedicated classroom spaces to the Fire Technology Program. The college has an abundance of props, tools and equipment required to conduct a Firefighter I Academy. The Fire Technology Coordinator is very familiar with SFT courses processes and procedures. The College Administration and the program coordinator are involved and supportive of the new Fire Fighter I training program and the up-coming certification testing process associated with it. The college is adding a Lab Tech position to augment with the clerical support it currently has.

The site team was unequivocal about Santa Rosa Junior College continuing as an Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP).